

WEBER COUNTY LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

Date: May 5, 2015

Board Members

In Attendance: Scott Spencer  
James Ebert  
Kathleen Jensen  
Spencer Stokes  
Tom Taylor

Board Members

Excused: Brent Innes  
Eric Jacobson

Others in

Attendance: Lynnda Wangsgard, Library Director  
Scott Jones, Assistant Library Director  
Julia Valle, Business Office Manager  
Phoebe Carter, Youth Services Manager  
Angela Igo, IT Librarian  
Evelyn Bertilson, Friends of the Library  
Marcia Harris, Development Board  
Brett Peterson, Deputy Weber County Attorney

Spencer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., and asked for public comments. Seeing none, he noted that Karen Leonardi's father, H. Brendan James, passed away during April. James was a master storyteller and famous for his horsemanship. Wangsgard will send condolences on behalf of the Board.

Approval of April 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes:

Spencer welcomed Brett Peterson, Deputy County Attorney, who had been assigned to serve as legal counsel for the Library.

Taylor complimented the staff on the minutes, which he felt captured the essence of the previous meeting in an outstanding manner. Taylor then moved acceptance of April 7, 2015 meeting minutes. Jensen seconded the motion. Spencer asked if there were any comments, corrections, or discussion. Bertilson noted a grammatical error and recommended a correction. There being no additional comments, Spencer called for a vote of approval, including the proposed correction. All responded in the affirmative.

## Director's Report:

The Ogden Planning Commission meeting scheduled for the following day had been canceled. A Planning Commission work session had been scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>, the purpose of which was to review the Main Library design development documents plans. The meeting will give the Board an opportunity to show the project is proceeding in good faith and within the scope of the vision presented to the City Council when bond funding was proposed. However, the major point of discussion during the work session will be limitations of the current parking available to the public, along with various iterations the Board has considered for going forward with parking lot expansion while showing mutual respect for Lester Park and the needs of Library users.

Ebert noted the City was anxious to explore the value of street parking. Discussion of collaborating with City to look at all options, including street parking, will likely be part of the Planning Commission's work session discussion agenda. Ebert said competing ideas could be worked out in the work session where the Board will have an opportunity to present and voice concerns on behalf of customers who use the Main Library. Ebert believes the City is really trying to work with the Board and it will be a powerful opportunity for the two entities to come together positively to negotiate the best possible solution for the public.

Wangsgard reported Library use statistics. Comparing March 2014 to March 2015, the number of items borrowed increased from 185,968 to 198,001 (6.59%). In addition, 69,523 reference units were completed compared to 66,763 (4.1% increase) the previous year. During the month, approximately 4,300 new items had been added to the collection, 113,983 visits were recorded, 8,706 individuals used public meeting rooms, and 3,813 attended literacy programs. In addition, 1,608 library cards were issued. A total of 241 Library sponsored programs were attended by 7,342 people, and 460 groups sponsored events in meeting rooms that were attended by 12,337 individuals.

The financial report had been included in the Board packet and illustrated that all income and expenditure line items were within expected tolerances. There were no requests for clarifications.

The Library was partnering with United Way of Northern Utah, Utah Department of Workforce Services, Interfaith Works, Weber Human Services, and Ogden-Weber Chamber of Commerce, in requesting a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), to procure computer resources to establish "Weber Works," a mobile, job training lab in Weber County libraries. IMLS is the Federal funding pass through authority for library and museum projects. The goal of the labs will be to empower those with low levels of digital literacy skills to gain the training needed to find meaningful employment; that is, to develop, be challenged, handle responsibility, and earn a fair wage. The successful applicants will be announced May 15, 2015.

## Community Outreach Schedule of Events:

Board members were invited to participate in the following summer outreach programs where staff, Library Friends, and others will meet and greet the public, answer questions concerning programs and services, and hear what people have to say about their library. In addition to setting up a booth at these events, employees also enter a unit into several local parades.

Ogden Nature Center - Earth Day	Saturday, April 18	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Ogden Marathon	Saturday, May 16	6 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Ogden Arts Festival	Friday & Saturday, June 12-13	12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Terrace Day Parade	Saturday, June 13	4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
South Ogden Day	Saturday, June 20	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
West Haven Day	Saturday, June 25	8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Oasis Summer Nights	Thursdays, July 2-30	5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Farmers' Market	Saturdays, July 11 – September 26	7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Cherry Days Parade	Saturday, July 4	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Cherry Days Booth	Saturday, July 4	10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Roy Days Parade	Saturday, August 1	8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Roy Days Booth	Saturday, August 1	8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Plain City's Harvest Arts Festival	Saturday, September 19	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Ebert encouraged the organizers to focus on introducing area residents to non-typical programs and services as well as the many partnerships the Library has with other community organizations. In other words, emphasize what modern libraries do in a way that addresses stereotypes and is effective in getting the message across in a fast-paced society.

### Summer Literacy Project Report:

Carter reported on summer literacy projects planned for children and teens. The children's summer reading program, "Power Up," is based on involving young people with science and math. It will build upon existing Library Coding Clubs sponsored in cooperation with Utah State University. The University has a grant to teach software coding and needs kid-friendly environments with access to digital resources in which to present their classes. The Summer Reading Club is designed to encourage children to read every day and then, after 16 days, bring in their reading log and select an incentive award. Kids have until August 8 to claim all the prizes.

Ebert noted there is a huge need for young people to become engaged in engineering and preparation for the future, so the theme is very appropriate for youth in Weber County.

The Teen Summer Reading program is designed as a do-it-yourself reading of books as well as joining in planned activities to qualifying for reading incentive awards.

Registration for both the Children's and Teen Summer Reading programs begins May 26. Youth services staff members were in the process of visiting schools to encourage signup and participation.

Special programs were also planned to bring children to the Library and get them registered for Summer Reading Clubs, including such draws as Hogle Zoo at Southwest Branch, June 2; the Fantastic Con at Pleasant Valley Branch, June 6; and life-sized gaming competitions at other locations. More than 3,000 attended the one-day Fantastic Con program a year ago at Pleasant Valley Branch. Movies and free screenings of classic films will entertain while also keeping young people coming to the Library during the summer months.

During 2014, more than 10,000 young people participated in the Summer Reading clubs.

In addition to bringing out-of-school children and teens into the Library, an effort was being made to keep them involved in summer learning activities by enticing them to take advantage of the Library's virtual presence in the community. The Library Web site had been reworked to place a link to learning games (<http://www.weberpl.lib.ut.us/line-gaming-children>) front-and-center on the children's page where it is easily accessible to youngsters looking for fun and educational digital distractions during the summer.

America Reads tutoring for children reading below grade level was planned for June – July. Tutors consist of volunteers from the schools who are not engaged in their regular work during the summer, members of Foster Grandparents, and other interested adults. America Reads is in its 19<sup>th</sup> year and serves approximately 350 children each summer.

Weber Reads in the Parks is an outreach effort to engage children who might not otherwise practice their reading skills during the summer. Programs will be offered in three area parks during June and will consist of storytelling, arts and crafts, music, and dance. All activities are designed to introduce the 2015-16 Weber Reads author, William Shakespeare. Each child will receive a Shakespeare coloring book and box of crayons, courtesy of the Ralph Nye Charitable Foundation.

Many additional family programs were also planned for the summer months to encourage adults to enjoy their library and model reading for their children. A complete program calendar can be picked up at any Library location or viewed on the Library Web site. Those with active Library cards also receive a regular email notification of upcoming events.

### 3D Printer Demonstration:

Igo demonstrated four, 3D printers provided by a grant from the 3D Systems, a manufacturer of scientific equipment; the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association; and the Association of Science and Technology Centers, a group dedicated to promoting science literacy and hands-on inquiry in the sciences.

These three organizations joined in a collaborative effort to support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) training throughout the U.S. Libraries were selected to participate through a competitive grant process. Those selected, including Weber County Library, are beginning to offer access to 3D printers as part of their regular program menu, the goal being to establish access and design opportunities for people in their communities.

Igo submitted Weber County's grant application, detailing how the printers will be used within the Library System. She was in the process of training staff while also demonstrating the technology to the public. The printers will be integrated into Fantastic Con and other activities planned in conjunction with summer reading programs. Igo is working with teachers from Utah State University who will offer classes on computer-assisted design, complementing those already sponsored by Library the youth services professionals during the school year.

The Board took a brief recess to review a printing demonstration Igo had running in the foyer. Each of four printers was engaged in printing the same object in various stages of completion, demonstrating the printing of the same object from top to bottom over a period of time.



As the Board reconvened, Igo presented each member with a small sunflower inspired gear-box she had manufactured using the 3D printers. The box contained sunflower seeds distributed in preparation for the Library's annual sunflower growing contest. Board members and Friends were invited to join the contest by planting their seeds and then bringing their sunflowers to the September 23 general staff meeting for judging. Annual employee customer service awards are presented at this time.

The sunflower, Igo explained, is the symbol for Library customer service. Just as the flower head turns throughout the day to receive the light it needs for photosynthesis, following the sun's arc across the sky, so do Library employees empower people with the life-enhancing transliteracy skills. Igo explained that digital literacy is one of seven basic literacies required for people to lead full and meaningful lives.

**Digital literacy** includes basic computer concepts and skills necessary for people to use computer technology effectively in everyday life to develop new social and economic opportunities for themselves, their families, and their communities.

**Visual literacy** is the ability to interpret, negotiate, and get or make meaning from information presented in the form of an image. Visual literacy is based on the idea that pictures can be "read" and that meaning can be communicated through a process of reading.

**Spatial literacy** enables people to apply spatial thinking and purposefully address spatial concepts. Supporting technologies such as virtual globes, geographic information systems (GIS) and global positioning systems (GPS), as well as tools that facilitate other forms of spatial thinking, are examples of technologies that rely on spatial literacy skills.

**Print literacy** represents the lifelong, intellectual process of gaining meaning from print.

**Information literacy** is the ability to identify what information is needed, understand how the information is organized, identify the best sources of information for a given need, locate those sources, evaluate the sources critically, and share that information. It is the knowledge of commonly used research techniques.

**Media literacy** is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate and create media in a variety of forms.

**Cultural literacy** is knowledge of history, contributions, and perspectives of different cultural groups, including one's own group, necessary for understanding of reading, writing, and other media. Cultural literacy includes the ability to converse fluently in the idioms, allusions, and informal content that creates and constitutes a dominant culture.

Wangsgard noted that according BBC broadcasts and an article in the National Association of Counties newsletter, 3D printers are being used in libraries for everything from printing prosthetic hands to making replacement parts, such as a plastic dishwasher wheel. Weber County teen librarians have already offered classes on Sketchup and other architecturally based design software to help young people learn basic engineer skills and come up with their own unique designs. 3D printers will be front and center when a new maker center debuts at the Headquarters Library.

Igo concluded by noting that 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries provide materials and programs designed to enhance literacy in all of its basic forms. Within the virtual worlds of email, chat rooms, virtual classrooms, social media, and even multi-player gaming environments, individuals from cultures, societies, and businesses around the globe are interacting with a frequency that was unimaginable even a decade ago.

Spencer thanked Igo for her interesting presentation.

#### Adams Avenue Road Repair Project Update:

Adams Avenue Parkway was being expanded from two to four lanes of traffic, necessitating extensive work being done in front of the Pleasant Valley Branch Library. Construction was inhibiting patron access, which will negatively impact usage. Wangsgard and Kevin Wilson, Library Business Property Manager, were working with Washington Terrace City to alleviate the bottleneck as much as possible.

Board members were apprised of concerns that were being voiced by Library users related to damage being done to the trees in front of the Library. Wangsgard and Wilson had met with City officials, along with representatives from the construction company doing the work, to remind them of an agreement signed by the City a year ago, promising to hold the trees harmless and assign an arborist to develop and oversee a plan to preserve and protect the trees while the street is being widened.

Since the agreement was signed, however, City officials had taken a stance that the trees are "illegal" and need to be removed. Wangsgard and Wilson pointed out that this was not the case. Both Washington Terrace City planners and the City Council had approved the landscape plan, including a test planting of a special American elm trees resistant to Dutch elm disease. The trees had been donated by community members and were affixed with plaques so noting.

Kevin Wilson, who is also a master gardener, had developed a tree management plan to fill the construction management void and presented it to the City.

Wangsgard noted that the architectural beauty of the Pleasant Valley Branch is based on its symmetrical and proportional design. In giving permission to do work in front of the Branch, the agreement stated the reworked sidewalks, catch basins, trees, and other landscaping elements would need to be approved by the Library architect to ensure they maintained and complemented the original building plan. The goal was to ensure the public did not lose the value and curb appeal of their public library as the road-widening project progressed.

If Board members field complaints about the inconvenience or lack of respect being shown for the trees, they were encouraged to forward the calls to Wangsgard.

#### Capital Projects Update:

**North Branch.** Spencer reported on a special meeting arranged by Ebert concerning the proposed North Branch relocation presented by area various mayors and council members representing residents of northern Weber County during the April Board meeting.

Attendees, in addition to Spencer, Ebert, and Wangsgard, included Stokes, North Ogden Mayor Taylor, North Ogden Councilmember Satterthwaite, EDA architect Tom Brennan, and PMA architect Jay Lems.

All participants agreed they would work cooperatively to best satisfy the needs of the people and would not propose, “sacrificing” the current facility. Stokes assisted Brennan and Lems in presenting factual budget estimates, illustrating that the actual cost of constructing a modern public library building was far different from what city leaders had presented during the April Board meeting. Stokes took the lead in agreeing to work to engage a foundation in offering a \$1,000,000 challenge grant that, if provided, would be used to leverage the additional \$2,000,000 needed to build an entirely new facility.

Wangsgard agreed the Library would arrange and pay for geotechnical and level-one environmental tests on the alternative site, as well as provide a professional survey. PMA architects will provide a no-cost review of the geotechnical and environmental tests when completed and develop cost estimates for a facility at the alternate site. EDA architects will review parking options at the existing facility. All of this information will be needed to determine if it is justifiable and feasible to proceed with building a new library on the proposed site, rather than renovating and expanding the current facility.

During this follow-up meeting, Library representatives had clearly expressed that whatever is done to expand and enhance services to users of North Branch, the public needs to end up with at least a 20,000 -21,000 square-foot facility. Any additional funding, beyond the \$5,000,000 allocated by the future sale of general obligation bonds needs to be raised by the community.

During the Board’s July meeting, a decision needs to be made as to how to proceed with design and construction of North Branch in order to avoid incurring increased construction costs that will devalue the \$5,000,000 available to invest in expanding services to the people of northern Weber County.

**Northwest Branch.** On another front, Ebert announced he had been contacted by people in Plain City and Farr West wanting to locate a library in their communities. He cautioned that working to raise additional funding for North Branch might impact the Board’s ability to fundraise for a new northwest branch.

**Southwest Branch/Headquarters.** Headquarters was proceeding under budget and on schedule. Spencer asked that Lems be invited to walk the building and answer questions for the Board after their June 2 meeting. Stokes asked that the Board receive a courtesy phone call reminding them of the change in meeting location for the meeting.

#### Commission Report:

Ebert gave a report on Commission activities. Commissioners Ebert and Bell had met with EDA Architects and did not hear anything that would be a stumbling block with moving forward on the Main Library. Ebert is working with Ogden City employees to reconcile parking issues and is making progress. He was also working with the Mayor of Farr West City, to explore their expectations relative to a branch library.

Ebert was encouraging the Health Department to use Libraries as locations to teach about healthy lifestyle issues. The Health Department has a tremendous program that is grant funded and the Library has the venues and trust of the community vital to inviting participation and encouraging attendance.

Spencer noted Ebert had been a “leveling” influence on the Board and he appreciated his involvement. His trust and participation has been a game-changer and will establish the environment needed to empower the Board to enhance services with private donations. Spencer thanked the Commissioner for bringing them from the back row to the front where they can do their best work. “There is a great team in the room working to support libraries,” he concluded.

Other:

There being no other business, Taylor moved, and Jensen seconded a motion to adjourn. All voted “aye.”

Respectfully submitted: Julia Valle 6/8/15  
Julia Valle Date